



**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

In re application of

Docket No: Q64483

Masaaki NISHINO

Appln. No.: 09/853,634

Group Art Unit: 2672

Confirmation No.: 7274

Examiner: Javid A. Amini

Filed: March 14, 2001

For: INFORMATION DISPLAYING SYSTEM

**SUBMISSION OF APPEAL BRIEF**

**MAIL STOP APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith please find an Appeal Brief. A check for the statutory fee of \$500.00 is attached. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian K. Shelton  
Registration No. 50,245

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: April 10, 2006



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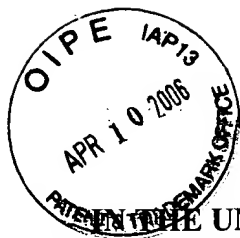
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**APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37**

**MAIL STOP APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 41.37, Appellant submits the following:

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APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37  
Application Serial No. 09/853,634  
Attorney Docket No. Q64483

**I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST**

Based on information supplied by the Appellant and to the best knowledge of the Appellant's legal representatives, the real party in interest is the assignee, NEC CORPORATION, by virtue of an Assignment executed on May 8, 2001 and recorded on May 14, 2001 at Reel 011807, Frame 0171.

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**II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES**

To the best of their knowledge, there are no other related appeals or interferences known to Appellant, Appellant's legal representatives or the assignee that will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the instant Appeal.

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### **III. STATUS OF CLAIMS**

Claims 1-8 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1-8 stand finally rejected as follows and are on appeal:

1. Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite.
2. Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Herbert (U.S. Patent No. 6,014,125) in view of Ahmed et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,774,912).

All the claims pending in the present application have been set forth in their entirety in Appendix A, attached to this Brief on Appeal.

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Attorney Docket No. Q64483

#### **IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS**

The amendments to the claims presented in the Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, filed on September 14, 2004, were entered by the Examiner. Subsequently, the Examiner issued a Final Office Action on January 24, 2005, in which claims 1-8 were rejected. The Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, filed on June 3, 2005, and the subsequent Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, filed on July 22, 2005, made no further amendments to pending claims 1-8. In the Advisory Action issued September 28, 2005, the Examiner maintained the rejections of claim 1-8. Thus, there are no outstanding, non-entered amendments.

Appellant filed a Notice of Appeal on December 12, 2005 to appeal from the Final Office Action.

**V. SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER**

The present invention relates to systems for displaying information, in which digital information data can be displayed without decreasing the amount of screen data to be displayed on a screen of a display. *See* Specification at pages 2-3.

As discussed in the specification, the amount of information displayed in conventional information displaying systems is reduced when digital information data, such as news and commercial data, for example, are mixed with screen data. In other words, when the digital information data is displayed on the display, the amount of the screen data displayed in a working region is decreased by the amount of digital information data. *See* Specification at page 2.

Thus, according to aspects of the invention, digital information data, such as news and commercial message data, are mixed at information data adding regions, positioned at outside of a working region of a display in which screen data from a personal computer. The digital information data are displayed, with the screen data by a screen mixing unit, without decreasing the screen data in the working region. Further, the mixed data are converted to mixed data having a synchronization frequency which may be displayed on the display. Thus, the amount of information displayed is not decreased on the working region of the display. *See* Specification at page 8.

In one exemplary embodiment of the invention, an information displaying system is provided which includes an A/D converting means for converting analog RGB signals inputted



from a first input terminal to first digital RGB signals, a selecting means for selecting either second digital RGB signals inputted from a second input terminal or said first digital RGB signals based on the inputted order, and for outputting third digital RGB signals being selected digital RGB signals. *See* Specification at pages 4-5. Further, the information displaying system includes screen mixing means comprising a first memory for storing said third digital RGB signals, and a second memory for storing digital information data inputted from a third input terminal. *See* Specification at page 5 and Fig. 2.

The screen mixing means may detect sizes of the third digital RGB signals and the digital information data, calculate control information, and mix the digital information data with the third digital RGB signals. *See* Specification at page 5 and Fig. 2. The control information may include a dot clock frequency, a horizontal synchronizing frequency, a vertical synchronizing frequency, a front porch, a back porch, and a pulse width. Subsequently, a synchronization signal may be generated based on the control information. The third digital RGB signals may be read from the first memory and the digital information data read from said second memory based on the synchronization signal. *See* Specification at page 6.

Display data may then be formed by mixing the third digital RGB signals read from the first memory and the digital information data read from the second memory such that the digital information data are displayed without overlap at outsides of a displaying region of the third digital RGB signals in one or more regions of at least one of an upper, a lower, a right and a left side of the displaying region. *See* Specification at pages 4-5 and Fig. 3. Further, the screen

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mixing means may output the displaying data by applying scaling to the displaying data so that the displaying data correspond to the resolution of a display. *See* Specification at page 7.

In addition, the display system may include password information stored in memory, in which output of the mixed data may be prevented unless the correct password is entered. *See* Specification at page 8.

**VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL**

The issues involved in this appeal are:

(1) Whether claim 2 was improperly finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite; and

(2) Whether claims 1-8 were improperly finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Herbert (U.S. Patent No. 6,014,125) in view of Ahmed et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,774,912).

For purposes of this appeal, claims 1-8 stand together with respect to the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection, but claim 2 stands separately with respect to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

## **VII. ARGUMENT**

As previously stated, claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite, and claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Herbert (U.S. Patent No. 6,014,125) in view of Ahmed et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,774,912, hereinafter “Ahmed”). As demonstrated below, each ground of rejection is improper and reversal of the outstanding rejections is therefore requested.

### **A. Rejection of Claim 2 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph**

The Examiner contends that claim 2 is indefinite because the limitation “a front porch and a back porch” is allegedly a relative term, the specification allegedly fails to provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would allegedly not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention. *See* Final Office Action dated January 24, 2005 (hereinafter “Final Office Action”) at page 2. The Examiner’s rejection of claim 2 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 is in error, as evidenced by the following.

Initially, Appellant notes that even in cases where a claim term is not used or defined in the specification, the term is not indefinite if the meaning of the claim term is discernible. *See Bancorp Services, L.L.C. v. Hartford Life Ins. Co.*, 69 USPQ2d 1996, 1999-2000 (Fed. Cir. 2004) (holding that the disputed claim term “surrender value protected investment credits” which was not defined or used in the specification was discernible and hence not indefinite because

“the components of the term have well recognized meanings, which allow the reader to infer the meaning of the entire phrase with reasonable confidence”); *see also* M.P.E.P. § 2173.02.

In the instant Appeal, even though use of claim terms is not required to satisfy the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, the claim terms “front porch” and “back porch”, which have well recognized meanings, are found in the specification itself. At page 6, for example, the specification describes the calculations performed by the scaler, the results of which are used to control a synchronization signal generator of a display system. Further, the terms “front porch” and “back porch” have clearly discernible meanings which are readily apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art. Indeed, one need look no further than the Examiner’s cited of art for evidence that a “front porch” and a “back porch”, as the terms relate to a video signal, have well understood meanings which are readily apparent to those of ordinary skill.

Moreover, Appellant previously pointed out that the Examiner cited a reference that evidences the well recognized meaning that these terms have attained. In this regard, Appellant referred the Examiner to Wicker et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,441,857) response to the Examiner’s previous 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, rejection directed to the terms “front porch” and “back porch”. Appellant pointed out that the Wicker et al. reference had been cited by the Examiner in the first Office Action.<sup>1</sup> *See* Amendment dated July 9, 2003 at page 6.

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<sup>1</sup> The 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph rejection was withdrawn in a previous Final Office Action dated September 24, 2003.

As Appellant previously noted, Wicker et al., at col. 5, lines 20-24, describes the front porch as the flat portion of a video waveform positioned between the end of the active signal and the beginning of the sync pulse. Also, at col. 5, lines 36-40, the back porch is described as the portion of a video waveform that extends from the rising edge of the horizontal sync pulse to the beginning of the active video signal. Further, Wicker et al. indicates that the respective portions of the waveform are “often referred to as” the front porch and back porch, and clearly demonstrates that these terms have an accepted meaning to one of ordinary skill in the art. *See* Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, filed June 3, 2005, at pages 2-3.<sup>2</sup>

Thus, as evidenced by the foregoing, the terms “front porch” and “back porch” are not relative terms which render the claim indefinite, as the Examiner alleges in a conclusory fashion. Rather, as claimed, the meaning of these terms is readily apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is improper and Appellant respectfully requests the Board to reverse this ground of rejection.

**B. Rejection of Claims 1-8 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103**

With respect to the rejection of claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), Appellant submits that the rejection of these claims is improper at least because the Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 submitted with the Appellant’s Response, filed July 22, 2005, establishes conception of the

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<sup>2</sup> The arguments were repeated in the subsequent Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, filed July 22, 2005, which was submitted due to the Examiner’s improper refusal to enter the Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131. *See* Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 of July 22, 2005 at pages 1-2.

claimed subject matter prior to the effective date of Ahmed and diligence leading to constructive reduction to practice of the claimed invention. As evidenced by the following, the Examiner's allegation that the Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 is "not sufficient to overcome the reference", as asserted in the Advisory Action of November 29, 2005, is in error and the Ahmed reference cannot properly form the basis of the rejection of claims 1-8.<sup>3</sup>

In the Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131, Appellant provided an English translation of the Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment (Exhibit "B"), which was prepared prior to the effective date of Ahmed, that fully supports the claimed subject matter.<sup>4</sup> Appellant submits that the Declaration clearly contains facts showing a completion of the invention commensurate with the extent of the invention as claimed.

For instance, the Examiner initially points to alleged discrepancies between the figures provided in Exhibit "A" of the Declaration, which is the Japanese language version of the Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment, and the drawings filed in the present application. However, the Examiner has failed to provide any explanation as to how these supposed distinctions in the drawings establish that support for any claim element is lacking. Likewise, the Examiner's allegation that Figure 3 of Exhibit "A" "misses" the D/A converter and the analog display does not establish that support for any claim limitation is inadequate, as these

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<sup>3</sup> As Appellant is seeking review of the Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 on its merits, appeal of the rejection is proper pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 715.08.

<sup>4</sup> The Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 is provided in its entirety in the Appendix.

elements are clearly shown in Figure 2 and described in the Declaration by Exhibit “B” at pages 1-3. Indeed, Applicant notes that these elements are depicted in Figure 1 of Exhibit “A”, which illustrates an alternate embodiment of the information displaying system, and supporting description of the D/A converter and the analog display can be found at least at pages 1-3 of Exhibit “B”.

Also, Appellant notes that the Examiner apparently contends that the feature of the “digital information data are displayed without overlap at outsides of a displaying region” is not supported by the Declaration because Exhibit “B” discloses that information data are displayed “without spoiling the information in the working region.” The Examiner proceeds to allege that the term “spoiling” is “not *similar* to the term used in the claim as ‘overlap’”. See Advisory Action dated November 29, 2005 (emphasis added).

However, the mere fact that one term is used in the claims while a different term is used in the English translation of the disclosure document is an inadequate basis to determine that the support in the Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 is insufficient. Indeed, it is well settled that claim terminology need not correspond *in haec verba* to the language of the disclosure. See, e.g., Crown Operations International, Ltd. v. Solutia Inc., 289 F.3d 1367, 1376 (Fed. Cir. 2002); In re Werthheim, 541 F.2d 257, 265 (CCPA 1976). Thus, contrary to the Examiner’s contention, which offers no authority to support such a conclusion, a claim term need not appear in identical terms in a declaration to be sufficient. Rather, the issue is whether the affidavit contains facts showing a completion of the invention commensurate with the invention as claimed. See In re



Wakefield, 422 F.2d 897, 164 USPQ 636 (CCPA 1970). Thus, taken alone, the alleged distinction between the term “without spoiling” and “without overlap” does not establish a lack of support for the claimed subject matter.

Further, the Examiner alleges that the disclosure in Exhibit “B” of additional information data being displayed in regions outside the working region is “not considered consistent” with the recitation of a displaying region being “at an edge” of the displaying means. *See* Advisory Action dated November 29, 2005. However, page 2 of Exhibit “B” describes the operation of an image mixing device in which a scaler writes digital RGB signals and digital information data into respective frame memories and creates display data, and the size of both the RGB signals and the digital information data are determined. Further, Exhibit “B” describes the operation of the image mixing device of the information display system in which scaling is performed on digital RGB signals and digital information data and the digital information data is output in data regions 42, 43, 44 and 45 outside the working region 41 where the digital RGB signals are displayed. *See* Exhibit “B” at page 2. Additionally, the scaling of the RGB signals is described in terms of providing a smaller resolution within the “working region”, while displaying the same amount of information in addition to the information data outside the working region. *See* Exhibit “B” at page 3.

Appellant submits that *at least* this description of the processing and display of digital information data and RGB data and the corresponding illustration of the data regions and working regions provided in Figures 3 and 4 fully support the features of displaying digital

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information data without overlap at outsides of a displaying region, as claimed. Likewise, the disclosure provided in Exhibit "B" and the illustration of the working regions and data regions plainly identified in Figures 3 and 4 of Exhibit "A" support the regions for displaying the digital information being at an edge of the displaying means, as defined by claim 1.

As demonstrated by the foregoing, the Examiner has failed to establish that the claimed subject matter is not adequately supported by the evidence provided in the Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131. Thus, the continued reliance on Ahmed is improper as Appellant has established invention of the subject matter of rejected claims 1-8 prior to the effective date of the Ahmed reference coupled with the requisite constructive reduction to practice.

As a result, the rejection of claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is in error *at least* because the Ahmed reference is removed from the rejection and the Examiner has conceded that Herbert fails to teach all the claim limitations. Accordingly, reversal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

### **Conclusion**

Unless a check is submitted herewith for the fee required under 37 C.F.R. §41.37(a) and 1.17(c), please charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37  
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Respectfully submitted,



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**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: April 10, 2006

CLAIMS APPENDIX

CLAIMS 1-8 ON APPEAL:

1. An information displaying system, comprising:

an A/D converting means for converting analog RGB signals inputted from a first input terminal to first digital RGB signals;

a selecting means for selecting either second digital RGB signals inputted from a second input terminal or said first digital RGB signals based on the inputted order, and for outputting third digital RGB signals being selected digital RGB signals;

a screen mixing means comprising:

a first memory for storing said third digital RGB signals, and

a second memory for storing digital information data inputted from a third input terminal,

said screen mixing means

detecting sizes of said third digital RGB signals and said digital information data,

calculating designated control information,

mixing said digital information data with said third digital RGB signals,

generating a synchronization signal based on said designated control information,

reading said third digital RGB signals from said first memory and said digital information data from said second memory based on said synchronization signal, and

forming displaying data by mixing said third digital RGB signals read from said first memory and said digital information data read from said second memory,

so that said digital information data are displayed without overlap at outsides of a displaying region of said third digital RGB signals in one or more regions at at least one of an upper, a lower, a right and a left side of said displaying region; and

a displaying means for displaying said displaying data, the regions for displaying said digital information being at an edge of said displaying means.

2. An information displaying system in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

said designated control information comprises a dot clock frequency, a horizontal synchronizing frequency, a vertical synchronizing frequency, a front porch, a back porch, and a pulse width, so that said displaying data are displayed on said displaying means.

3. An information displaying system in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

said screen mixing means forms said displaying data comprising digital information data displayed on at least one region of at least one of upper, lower, right, and left end parts which are outside of said displaying region of said third digital RGB signals.

4. An information displaying system in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

said screen mixing means outputs said displaying data by applying scaling to said displaying data so that said displaying data correspond to the resolution of said displaying means.

5. An information displaying system in accordance with claim 1, wherein:

said screen mixing means outputs said displaying data by converting said displaying data to analog RGB signals.

6. An information displaying system in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a D/A converting means for converting said displaying data to analog RGB signals.

7. An information displaying system, comprising:

an A/D converting means for converting analog RGB signals inputted from a first input terminal to first digital RGB signals;

a selecting means for selecting either second digital RGB signals inputted from a second input terminal or said first digital RGB signals based on the inputted order, and for outputting third digital RGB signals being selected digital RGB signals;

a screen mixing means comprising:

a first memory for storing said third digital RGB signals, and

a second memory for storing digital information data inputted from a third input terminal,

said screen mixing means

detecting sizes of said third digital RGB signals and said digital information data,

calculating designated control information,

mixing said digital information data with said third digital RGB signals,

generating a synchronization signal based on said designated control information,

reading said third digital RGB signals from said first memory and said digital information data from said second memory based on said synchronization signal, and

forming displaying data by mixing said third digital RGB signals read from said first memory and said digital information data read from said second memory,

so that said digital information data are displayed at outsides of a displaying region of said third digital RGB signals, without overlap; and

a displaying means for displaying said displaying data,

wherein said digital information is displayed around said displaying region of said third digital RGB signals.

8. An information displaying system, comprising:

an A/D converting means for converting analog RGB signals inputted from a first input terminal to first digital RGB signals;

a selecting means for selecting either second digital RGB signals inputted from a second input terminal or said first digital RGB signals based on the inputted order, and for outputting third digital RGB signals being selected digital RGB signals;

a screen mixing means comprising:



a first memory for storing said third digital RGB signals, and

a second memory for storing digital information data inputted from a third input terminal and for storing password information,

said screen mixing means

detecting sizes of said third digital RGB signals and said digital information data,

calculating designated control information,

mixing said digital information data with said third digital RGB signals,

generating a synchronization signal based on said designated control information,

reading said third digital RGB signals from said first memory and said digital information data from said second memory based on said synchronization signal, and

forming displaying data by mixing said third digital RGB signals read from said first memory and said digital information data read from said second memory,

so that said digital information data are displayed at outsides of a displaying region of said third digital RGB signals, without overlap; and

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a displaying means for displaying said displaying data,  
wherein said password information is read out from said second memory, and  
if said password information is incorrect, or if said password information does not exist,  
then said third digital RGB signals are not displayed.

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**RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX**

NONE.

**EVIDENCE APPENDIX**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(1)(ix), submitted herewith are copies of any evidence submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.130, 1.131, or 1.132 or any other evidence entered by the Examiner and relied upon by Appellant in the appeal.

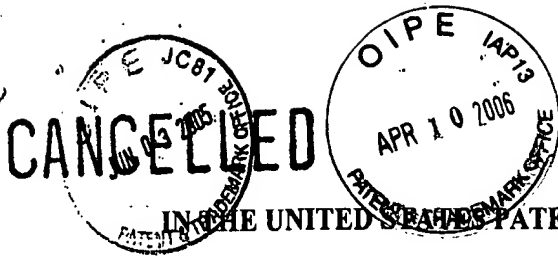
The following documents were submitted as Exhibits A-F in support of Appellant's Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131:

1. A Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment together with an invention report submitted to NEC CORPORATION, the assignee of the present application (Exhibit "A");
2. An English translation of the Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment (Exhibit "B");
3. A copy of the results of a prior art search conducted by NEC CORPORATION (Exhibit "C");
4. An English translation of the results of the prior art search (Exhibit "D");
5. A copy of a letter from NEC CORPORATION to Shiga International Patent Office, of Tokyo, Japan, requesting preparation of a patent application based on the invention report submitted with the Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment (Exhibit "E"); and
7. An English translation of the letter from NEC CORPORATION to Shiga International Patent Office (Exhibit "F").

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The Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131, together with Exhibits A-F were initially submitted with Appellant's Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 dated June 3, 2005. Subsequently, the Declaration with Exhibits A-F were again submitted in identical form with Appellant's Response Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 dated July 22, 2005.

Copies of the Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 with Exhibits A-F, as filed on June 3, 2005 and July 22, 2005, are submitted in this Appendix.



**PATENT APPLICATION**

In re application of

Docket No: Q64483

Masaaki NISHINO

Appln. No.: 09/853,634

Group Art Unit: 2672

Confirmation No.: 7274

Examiner: Javid A. Amini

Filed: March 14, 2001

For: INFORMATION DISPLAYING SYSTEM

**DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Masaaki Nishino, hereby declare and state as follows:

1. I am a citizen of Japan.
2. I am the inventor and applicant of the invention entitled "INFORMATION DISPLAYING SYSTEM", disclosed and claimed in U.S. Patent Application No. 09/853,634, filed May 14, 2001.
3. At the time I invented the present invention, I was employed by NEC CORPORATION.
4. Prior to March 16, 2000, the U.S. filing date of U.S. Patent No. 6,774,912, the Information Displaying System invention as described above and claimed in the above referenced application was conceived in Japan, and further, the invention was constructively reduced to practice with diligence from the period prior to March 16, 2000 to the filing of the priority document on May 16, 2000, as evidenced by the following:

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131  
U.S. Application No. 09/853,634

5. Prior to March 16, 2000, having earlier conceived the idea of the Information Displaying System as set forth in the specification of the above referenced application, the present invention was formally submitted to my employer NEC CORPORATION.

6. Prior to March 16, 2000, it was standard practice of employees of NEC CORPORATION to submit their inventions to the Patent Department at NEC CORPORATION in the form of an invention report submitted with a Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment.

7. The submission of the above Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment for the present invention occurred on February 29, 2000. The Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment, along with an English translation thereof, are attached as Exhibits "A" and "B", respectively.

8. The attached Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment completely discloses the present invention as set forth and claimed in the above referenced application.

9. At the time the subject matter of the present invention was invented, it was common practice at NEC CORPORATION for a prior art search to be conducted for inventions submitted by employees.

10. On March 8, 2000, a prior art search was conducted by NEC CORPORATION for the present invention based upon the invention report submitted with the Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment. A copy of the results of the prior art search, and an English translation thereof, are attached as Exhibits "C" and "D", respectively.

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131  
U.S. Application No. 09/853,634

11. At the time the subject matter of the present application was invented, it was common practice at NEC CORPORATION to have patent applications prepared by persons not employed by NEC CORPORATION.

12. In the ordinary course of business and in due time, NEC CORPORATION sent a request to Shiga International Patent Office, of Tokyo, Japan, requesting preparation of a patent application based on the invention report submitted with the Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment. The request was sent to Shiga International Patent Office on March 22, 2000. A copy of the request, and an English translation thereof, are attached as Exhibits "E" and "F", respectively.

13. In the ordinary course of business, Shiga International Patent Office prepared the patent application, as requested by NEC CORPORATION, and, further, the patent application was filed in the Japanese Patent Office on May 16, 2000, which is the priority document (JP 2000-143933) of the above referenced application.

I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: 5/20/2005

Masaaki Nishino  
Masaaki Nishino





## 業務発明届出・譲渡・意見書

(分社単独出願)

## 【発明者記入欄】

2000年02月29日

仮番号	11382823	発明の名称 情報表示システム
整理番号	017-02622	

発 明 者					
確認	会社コード 社員番号	氏名 ローマ字 (外国出願に用いるため)	電話 地区- 番号 外線ダイヤル イン	Eメールアドレス 外線FAX番号	会社名 所属部門名
1 済	0017 0036081	西野 政晃 Masaaki Nishino	549-3471 0537 (22) 8234	nishino@pc.snec.nec. co.jp 0537 (22) 8236	静岡日本電気株式会社 パーソナルコンピュータ 技術部

届出の形態	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 発明説明書 (実施の形態・図面等) による届出 <input type="radio"/> 明細書全文による届出 <input type="radio"/> コンカレント	
外国出願	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 希望する <input type="radio"/> 希望しない	出願希望国 アメリカ
国内優先権主張	<input type="radio"/> 自発的 <input type="radio"/> 知的財産部の要請 <input checked="" type="radio"/> 希望しない	先の発明の出願番号 年 月 日 (西暦8桁で記入のこと) 先の発明の出願日 - 先の発明の整理番号 年 月 日 (西暦8桁で記入のこと) 知的財産部要請日
社外発表出荷予定	<input type="radio"/> 製品発表 <input type="radio"/> 論文発表 <input type="radio"/> 新聞発表 <input type="radio"/> その他 <input checked="" type="radio"/> 社外発表なし	製品名 学会名 発表予定日 年 月 日 (西暦8桁で記入のこと)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 製品出荷	製品出荷先 出荷予定日 年 月 日 (西暦8桁で記入のこと)
関連発明 (あれば入力)	出願番号 出願日 年 月 日 (西暦8桁で記入のこと) 整理番号 - 外国出願してあればその国名	
発明の種類	<input type="radio"/> ビジネスの方法 (やり方や仕組み) に関する発明である <input checked="" type="radio"/> その他の発明である	
事業部連結	<input checked="" type="radio"/> する <input type="radio"/> しない	連結事業部コード: 626 連結事業部名: 第一パーソナルコンピュータ事業部

## 譲 渡

上記の発明について、静岡日本電気株式会社従業員就業規則にもとづいて、特許または実用新案登録を受ける権利を静岡日本電気株式会社に譲渡いたします。

Exhibit A

## 発明説明書

## 【発明の名称】

## 情報表示システム

## 【発明の特徴】

本発明は、パーソナルコンピュータのCRT、LCD等の表示装置において、パーソナルコンピュータのRGBデータとニュースや広告等の情報データを、パーソナルコンピュータの出力するRGBデータの情報を損なうことなく合成し、その合成データを、表示装置にて表示可能な同期周波数に変換し、表示を行うことを特徴としている。

図1に、本発明による情報表示システムを示す。本システムは、パーソナルコンピュータからのデジタルRGB信号を入力する入力端子1、パーソナルコンピュータからのアナログRGB信号を入力する入力端子2、ニュースや広告等の情報データを入力する入力端子3、入力端子からのデータを合成する画像合成装置13とデータを表示する表示装置15、16から成る。

画像合成機13にて、図4における作業領域41の外側の上下左右に情報データを追加するため、パーソナルコンピュータからRGBデータの情報を損なうことなく、ニュースや広告等の情報の表示が行えるという効果が得られる。

## 【発明の実施例】

図1を参照すると、本発明の一実施例としての情報表示システムが示されている。本情報表示システムは、パーソナルコンピュータからのデジタルRGB信号を入力する入力端子1と、パーソナルコンピュータからのアナログRGB信号を入力する入力端子2と、ニュースや広告等のデジタル情報データを入力する入力端子3の3つのデータ入力端子を有する。

この入力端子2に入力されたアナログRGB信号はA/D変換器11に入力され、デジタルRGB信号に変換される。A/D変換器11の出力はセレクト12に入力され、セレクト13は、入力端子1からの入力データとA/D変換器からの入力データの、どちらか一方を画像合成機13に出力する。

一方、画像合成機13には、入力端子3からのデジタル情報データも入力される。入力されたデジタル情報データは、図4における作業領域41の外側の上下左右に表示されるよう、画像合成機13にて、デジタルRGB信号に追加される。このようにして得られたデータは、D/A変換器14により、アナログRGB信号に変換された後、CRTモニタ等の表示装置15に出力される。

また、表示装置が表示装置16のようにLCDモニタなどのデジタルRGB信号をそのまま入力できる装置の場合は、デジタルRGB信号を、直接、表示装置16に入力する。

図1の表示装置15、16は、それぞれCRTモニタ、LCDモニタとして、当業者にとってよく知られており、また本発明とは直接関係しないので、その詳細な構成は省略する。

## 【実施例の動作の説明】

以下、本実施例の動作につき説明する。A/D変換器11とセレクト12の動作は、当業者にとってよく知られており、また本発明とは直接関係しないので、その詳細な説明は省略する。

まず、画像合成機13の動作について説明する。図1を参照すると、画像合成機13は、その内部にセレクト12から出力されたデジタルRGB信号を蓄積するフレームメモリ21と入力端子3から入力された情報データを蓄積するフレームメモリ22、フレームメモリのデータを処理するスケーラ23、同期信号を発生する同期信号発生器24から成る。

スケーラ23は、入力されたデジタルRGB信号、デジタル情報データをそれぞれフレームメモリ21、22に書き込む。スケーラ23は、各データのサイズを判断し、表示装置で表示可能なドットクロック周波数、水平同期周波数、垂直同期周波数、フロントポーチ、バックポーチ、パルス幅を計算し、その計算結果に基づき同期信号発生器24を制御する。スケーラ23は同期信号発生器24で作成された同期信号に基づき、フレームメモリ21、22のデータを読み込み、表示データを作成する。作成される表示データは図4に示すように、パーソナルコンピュータの作業領域41の外側の情報データ追加領域42、43、44、45に情報データを付加した物となる。

表示装置が表示装置15に示すようにCRTモニタの場合、作成したデータをD/A変換器14でアナログRGB信号に変換した後、表示装置15に出力する。

表示装置が表示装置16に示すようにLCDモニタの場合、LCDモニタは解像度が固定であるため、スケーラ23は、作成された1024×768×dot×768×lineのデータを、LCDモニタの解像度1024×768×lineに縮小/拡大変換した後、表示装置16に出力する。返還後の作業領域41の解像度は、パーソナルコンピュータから出力されるRGB信号の解像度より小さくなるが、作業領域41に表示される情報量は変わらない。

## 【効果の説明】

このように、本発明ではパーソナルコンピュータの作業領域の外側に、情報データを追加する為、作業領域の情報を損なうことなく、ニュースや広告等の表示を行うことが出来る。

また、従来、パーソナルコンピュータで行っていた合成処理を情報表示システム側で行うこととなるため、パーソナルコンピュータの負荷を削減することが出来る。

#### 【発明の他の実施例】

本発明の他の実施例として、その基本的構成は上記の通りであるが、情報データの入力部についてさらに工夫している。その構成を図2に示す。本図において、入力される情報データはPCカードなどの蓄積メディア17に記録されている。この蓄積メディアにはパスワード情報も入っており、スケーラ23は、情報データを読み込むと同時に、パスワード情報も読み込み、パスワード情報が不正であったり、蓄積メディアが挿入されていないときには、表示装置16への表示データの出力を行わない。

本発明を使用すれば、例えば、フリーPCなどのPCを無料で配布するとき、蓄積メディア記録された広告を確実に表示させることが出来る。

#### 【発明の背景】

本発明が関する情報表示システムは、特にパーソナルコンピュータにおいてニュースや広告等をテロップ表示するために構成されている。

このような、情報表示システムは、一般的にパーソナルコンピュータ上のソフトウェアにて画面データと情報データを合成しており、作業領域の上下の数ラインを使用して情報データを表示している。このため、例えば、図3に示すように、解像度が1024ドット×768ラインの画面に16ラインの情報データ32を表示すると、実際の作業領域31は1024ドット×752ラインとなるため、作業領域内に表示できる情報が少なくなるという問題がある。

本発明の主な目的は作業領域の情報量を削減することなく、情報データを表示する情報表示装置を提供することにある。

#### 【権利範囲】

##### 【届出前自主サーチにおける検索式】

1. モニタ+表示装置
2. ニュース+情報
3. MUX+合成
4. パソコン+コンピュータ

【本発明に関連すると思われる公報の公開、公告または特許番号】  
なし

【図1】 本発明の第1の実施形態の構成を示すブロック図

【図2】 本発明の第2の実施形態の構成を示すブロック図

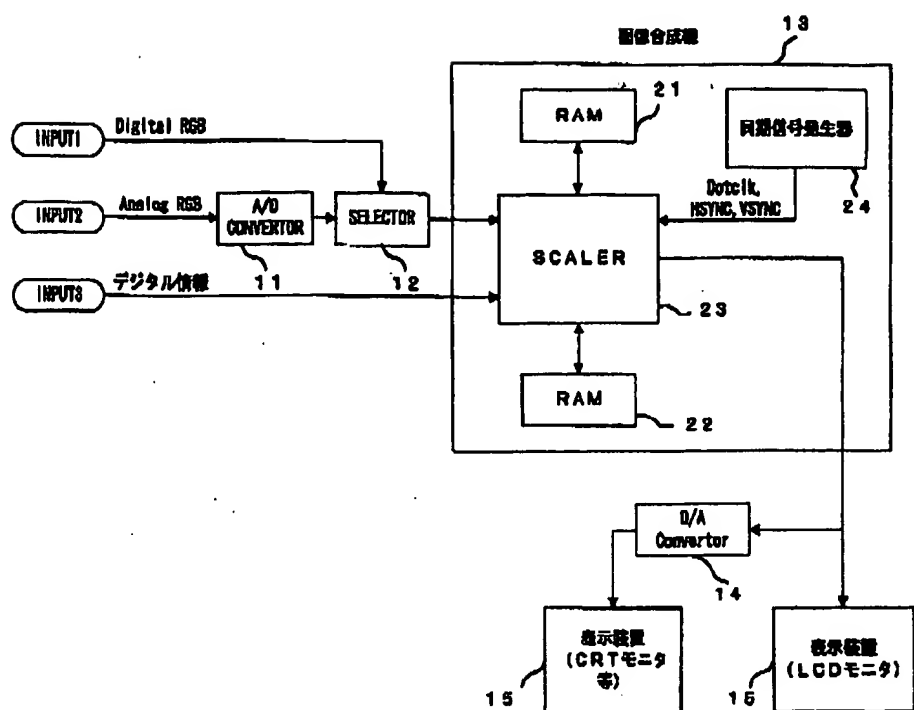
【図3】 従来の情報表示方法

【図4】 本発明の情報表示方法

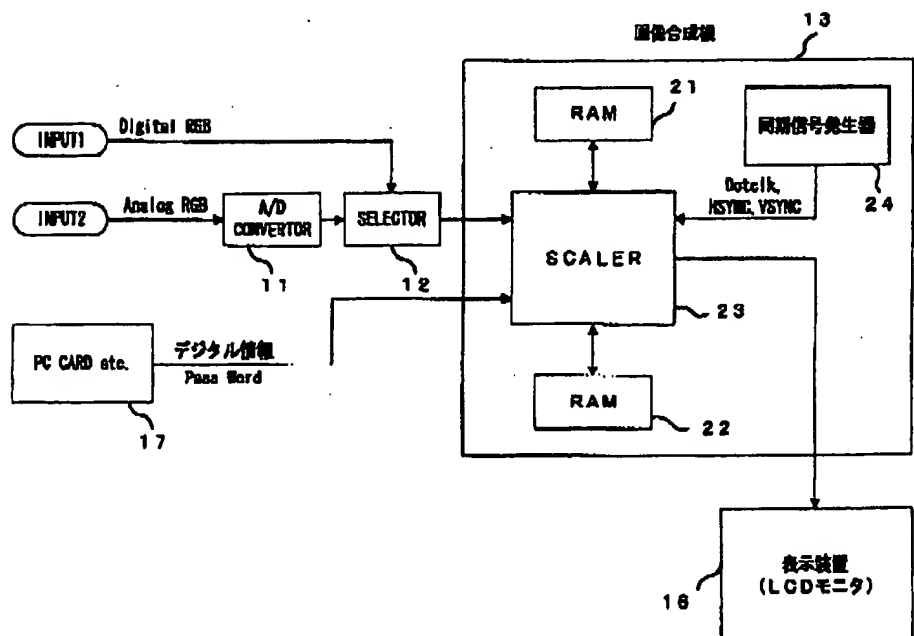
##### 【符号の説明】

- 11 A/D変換器
- 12 セレクタ
- 13 画像合成機
- 14 D/A変換器
- 15 表示装置 (CRTモニタ)
- 16 表示装置 (LCDモニタ)
- 17 蓄積メディア
- 21, 22 フレームメモリ
- 23 スケーラ
- 24 同期信号発生器
- 31, 41 作業領域
- 32 情報データ
- 42, 43, 44, 45 情報データ追加領域

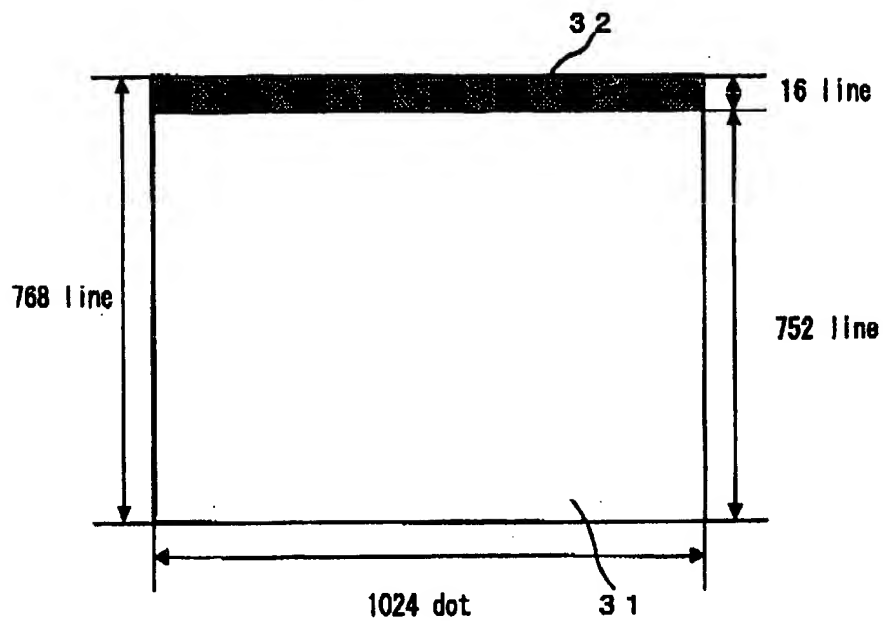
【図1】



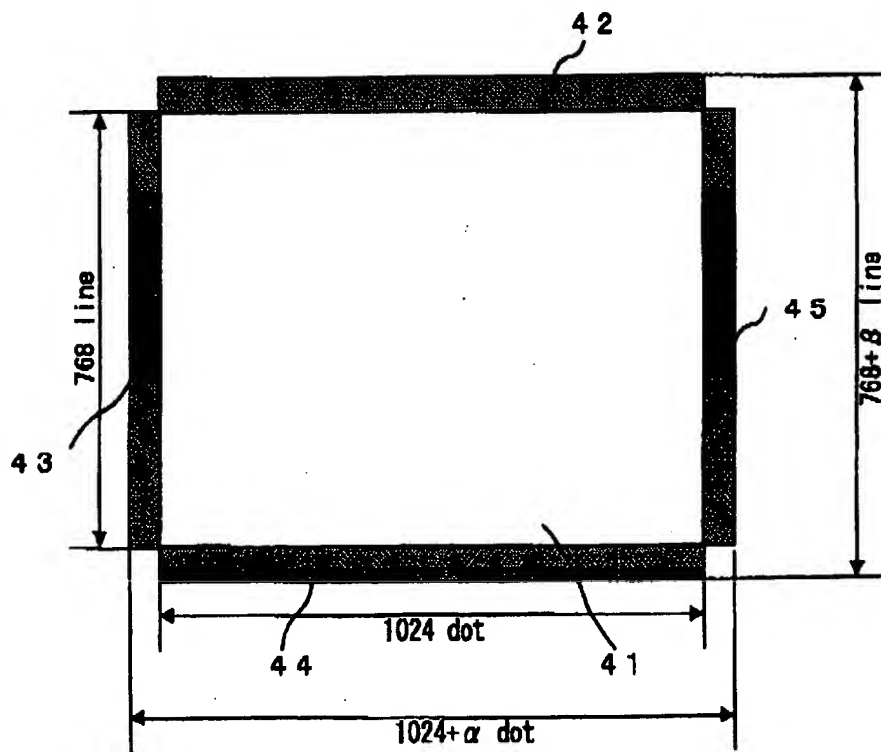
【図2】



【図3】



【図4】



**Notification of employee's invention • Assignment • Opinion**  
(Application of separate company only)

**[Entry space for inventor]**

February 29, 2000

Provisional No.	11382823	Title of the invention <b>INFORMATION DISPLAYING SYSTEM</b>
Reference No.	017-02622	

Inventor						
	Confirmation	Company Code Employee No.	Name	Telephone	e-mail address FAX number	Company Current department
1	Done	0017 0036081	Masaaki Nishino	549-3471 0537(22)8234	nishino@pc.snec.nec.co.jp 0537(22)8236	NEC Shizuoka, Ltd. Personal computer technique department

Form of notification	<input checked="" type="radio"/> notification by invention report (embodiments, drawings, etc.) <input type="radio"/> notification by completed specification <input type="radio"/> "concurrent"	
Foreign application	<input checked="" type="radio"/> desired <input type="radio"/> not desired	Country the United States of America
National priority	<input type="radio"/> voluntary <input type="radio"/> requested by intellectual property dept. <input checked="" type="radio"/> not desired	Application No. of the prior invention Application date of the prior invention (Fill in by 8 figures in dominical year form) Reference No. of the prior invention Date of request (Fill in by 8 figures in dominical year form)
Schedule for external publication or shipment	<input type="radio"/> publication of products <input type="radio"/> publication of papers <input type="radio"/> publication through newspaper <input type="radio"/> other <input type="radio"/> no external publication	Product name Name of academic conference Expected date for publication (Fill in by 8 figures in dominical year form)
	<input type="checkbox"/> shipment	Ship-to Expected date for shipment (Fill in by 8 figures in dominical year form)
Related invention (if any)	Application No. Application date Reference No. Country if foreign application has been filed	
Type of invention	<input type="radio"/> business model (method or structure) <input checked="" type="radio"/> other	
Division consolidated	<input checked="" type="radio"/> yes <input type="radio"/> no	Consolidated division code: 625 Consolidated division name: the first personal computer division

**Assignment**

I assign the right to obtain a patent concerning the above invention to NEC Shizuoka Ltd. based on the employee regulation of NEC Shizuoka Ltd.

**Exhibit B**

## Invention Report

### [Title of the Invention]

#### INFORMATION DISPLAYING SYSTEM

### [Features of the Invention]

This invention, relating to a displaying device such as CRT, LCD, etc. of a personal computer, mixes RGB data of a personal computer and information data such as news or advertisements without spoiling the RGB data. The mixed data is transformed to synchronous frequencies suitable for the displaying device and is displayed.

Fig. 1 shows an information displaying system of the present invention. This system comprises an input terminal 1 for receiving digital RGB signals from a personal computer, an input terminal 2 for receiving analog RGB signals from the personal computer, an input terminal 3 for receiving information data such as news or advertisements, image mixing device 13 for mixing data from input terminals and a displaying devices 15 and 16 for displaying data.

Since the image mixing device 13 adds the information data in top, bottom, right and left sides of a working region 41 as shown in Fig. 4, information such as news or advertisements can be displayed without spoiling the RGB data.

### [Embodiment]

Fig. 1 shows an information displaying system as one embodiment of the present invention. The information displaying system comprises three input terminals, namely an input terminal 1 for receiving digital RGB signals from a personal computer, an input terminal 2 for receiving analog RGB signals from the personal computer and an input terminal 3 for receiving a digital information data such as news or advertisements.

The analog RGB signals received at the input terminal 2 are inputted into an A/D converter 11 and are transformed to digital RGB signals. Outputs of the A/D converter 11 are inputted into a selector 12. The selector 12 outputs either data from the input terminal 1 or data from the A/D converter into an image mixing device 13.

The image mixing device 13 also receives the digital information data from the input terminal 3. The inputted digital information data is added to the digital RGB signals at the image mixing device 13 so that the digital information data is displayed at the top, bottom, right and left sides of a

working region 41. The data obtained by this way is, after transformed into analog RGB signals at a D/A converter 14, outputted into a display device 15 such as a CRT monitor.

When a display device is a displaying device 16, such as an LCD monitor, which can directly receive digital RGB signals, the digital RGB signals are immediately inputted into the display device 16.

Since the display devices 15 and 16 in Fig. 1 are well known to those skilled in the art and do not relate directly to the present invention, their detailed structures are omitted.

#### [Operation of the embodiment]

Operation of the present embodiment is explained below. Since the operations of the A/D converter 11 and the selector 12 are well known to those skilled in the art and are not directly related to the present invention, their detailed explanations are omitted.

The operation of the image mixing device 13 is explained. With reference to Fig. 1, the image mixing device 13 comprises a frame memory 21 which stores RGB signals sent from the selector 12, a frame memory 22 which stores information data from the input terminal 3, scaler 23 which processes data stored in the frame memories and synchronous signal generator 24 which generates synchronous signals.

The scaler 23 writes the digital RGB signals and the digital information data into the frame memories 21 and 22 respectively. The scaler 23 determines the size of each data, calculates dot clock frequencies, horizontal synchronous frequencies, vertical synchronous frequencies, front porches, back porches and pulse widths so that they are suitable for the display device and controls the synchronous signal generator 24 based on the result of the calculation. The scaler 23 reads in the data in the frame memories 21 and 22 based on synchronous signals generated at the synchronous signal generator 24 and then creates display data. The display data is, as shown in Fig. 4, the information data plus additional information data regions 42, 43, 44 and 45 outside the working region 41.

Where a display device is the display device 15 such as a CRT monitor, the created data is outputted into the display device 15 after transformed to analog RGB signals at the D/A converter 14.

Where a display device is the display device 16 such as a LCD monitor, the scaler 23 scales up/down the generated data ( $1024 + \square \text{ dot} \times 768 + \square \text{ line}$ ) into the LCD monitor's resolution ( $1024 \text{ dot} \times 768 \text{ line}$ ), taking into



account the fact that resolution of the LCD monitor is fixed, and then outputs it into the display device 16. Although the resolution at the working region 41 becomes smaller after the scaling than that of the RGB signals from the personal computer, the amount of information displayed in the working region does not change.

#### [Effect]

As described above, since the present invention adds information data outside a working region of a personal computer, news or advertisements are displayed without spoiling the information in the working region.

In addition, the present invention reduces load of personal computers because the mixing process, which is conventionally performed at a personal computer's side, is performed at an information display device's side.

#### [Other embodiments]

Another embodiment of the present invention contrives another input section for the information data while the basic structure is not altered. The structure of this embodiment is shown in Fig. 2. Information data is stored in storage media 17 such as a PC card. The storage media includes password information. The scaler 23 reads in information data and password information at the same time and when the password information is not right or storage media is not inserted, does not output the information data into the display device 16.

With this invention, for example, when one intends to distribute a PC such as a free PC at no charge, advertisements stored in storage media can be displayed without fail.

#### [Background of the Invention]

The information displaying system of this invention is constructed so as to display news or advertisements in a telop form.

Information displaying systems generally mix screen data and information data over a software in a personal computer and uses a few lines over and under a working region to display information data. Consequently, as shown in Fig. 3, when one tries to display information data 32 of 16 lines on a display of 1024 dots  $\times$  768 lines, an actual working region 31 reduces to 1024 dots  $\times$  752 lines and the amount of information to be displayed in the working region becomes smaller.

The object of the present invention is to provide an information

displaying system which displays information data without reducing the amount of information in a working region.

[Claims]

[Search formula for voluntary search prior to notification]

1. "monitor" + "display device"
2. "news" + "information"
3. "MUX" + "mix"
4. "personal computer" + "computer"

[Publication or patent number assumed to be related to the present invention]  
Non.

[Fig. 1] A block diagram showing a structure of the first embodiment of the present invention.

[Fig. 2] A block diagram showing a structure of the second embodiment of the present invention.

[Fig. 3] A conventional information display method.

[Fig. 4] An information display method of the present invention.

[Explanation of signs]

- 11 A/D converter
- 12 Selector
- 13 Image mixing device
- 14 D/A converter
- 15 Display device (CRT monitor)
- 16 Display device (LCD monitor)
- 17 Storage media
- 21 and 22 Frame memories
- 23 Scaler
- 24 Synchronous signal generator
- 31 and 41 Working regions
- 32 Information data
- 42, 43, 44 and 45 information data adding region

## サーチ結果一覧表とサーチ結果

## サーチ結果 (公報)

整理番号	01702622	発注番号	SS0001296
サーチ実施日	00年03月08日	サーチ担当	長沼 光明 知財部担当 稲葉 隆夫

発明の名称

情報表示システム

発明説明書の記載：

No	公知例公報番号	判定	本願サーチ対象発明	主な関連箇所
1	特許第2887257号	A	①, ②	情報表示システム。

※ X、?等の意味については、「関連文書参照」の中の「サーチレポートの読み方」を参照して下さい。

コメント

①, ②→図1, 2 本公報以外の適切な先行技術はサーチできませんでした。

Exhibit C

## Search result list and search result

## Search result (published document of patent application or patent)

Reference NO.	01702622	Order No.	SS0001298		
Date	March 8, 2000	Person in charge for search	Mr. Naganuma	Person in charge at intellectual property department	Mr. Inaba

## Title of the invention

INFORMATION DISPLAYING SYSTEM

## Document referred to in the invention report:

No.	Publicly known example Publication No.	Category	Subject for search	Related part
1	JP Patent 2887257	A	①、②	Information displaying system

※ Please see "how to read search report" in "REFER TO RELATED DOCUMENTS" for the meaning of symbols X, ? and so on.

## Comments

①、②= Figs. 1 and 2      Publications other than the above could not be found.

Exhibit D

平成12年 3月22日

志賀国際特許事務所

志賀 正武 様

日本電気株式会社

知的財産部長 京本 直樹

## 特許出願のご依頼

拝啓 時下ますますご清栄のこととお喜び申し上げます。

さて、貴社間で締結の委任業務契約書第2条に基づき、下記のとおり出願をご手配くださるようお願い申し上げます。

敬具

## 記

## 1. 依頼発明

依頼番号 06490-03890

整理番号 01702622

審査請求 保留

出願種別 通常

出願人形態 分身のみ

外国出願 外国出願する

S指定 なし

出願人 会社名

静岡日本電気株式会社

識別番号

000197366

出願期限 平成12年 4月21日

当部技術担当者 井本 史生

届出区分 新：出願直前の明細書点検が必要

届出の形態 発明説明書による届出

## 2. 納品

出願後、一両日中に電子納品をお願いします。

## 3. その他

① J I S I O 出願の場合は出願番号通知書を手後直ちに出席番号入力を行ってください。

以下の書類はWWWにてご確認ください。

1. 業務発明届出・譲渡書
2. 発明説明書（または届出明細書）および図面の草案
3. 先行技術文献

以上

---

知的財産部

特許技術部

井本 史生

E-Mail : IMOTO@p10-22440.star.nec.co.jp

T E L : 03(3798)6991

F A X : 03-3456-4492

March 22, 2000

Shiga International Patent Office

Mr. Masatake SHIGA

NEC Corporation

Manager of Intellectual Property Department

Naoki KYOMOTO

**Request for Patent Application**

Dear Sir,

According to Article 2 of the Contract for entrusted practice, we request you to arrange a patent application as shown below.

**1. Invention**

Request number	06490-03890
Reference number	01702622
Request for examination	On hold
Application type	Normal
Form of applicant	Separated only
Foreign application	Yes
S-assignment	No
Applicant	Company name NEC Shizuoka, Ltd. Identification number 000197366
Time limit for application	April 21, 2000
Person in charge at this department	Humio IMOTO
Notification type	New: Review of the specification prior to the filing is needed.
Notification form	Invention report

**Exhibit F**

**2. Delivery**

Please proceed to electronic delivery in couple of days after the filing.

**3. Other**

- ① In the case of JIS10 application, kindly input the application number immediately after you receive the notification of application number.

Please review the following documents on the WWW.

1. Notification of invention, Assignment
2. Invention Report
3. Prior art documents

**Intellectual Property Department**

**Patent Technical Section**

**Humio Imoto**

**E-Mail: IMOTO@p10-22440.star.nec.co.jp**

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**FAX: 03-3456-4492**





**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q64483

Masaaki NISHINO

Appln. No.: 09/853,634

Group Art Unit: 2672

Confirmation No.: 7274

Examiner: Javid A. Amini

Filed: March 14, 2001

For: INFORMATION DISPLAYING SYSTEM

**DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Masaaki Nishino, hereby declare and state as follows:

1. I am a citizen of Japan.
2. I am the inventor and applicant of the invention entitled "INFORMATION DISPLAYING SYSTEM", disclosed and claimed in U.S. Patent Application No. 09/853,634, filed May 14, 2001.
3. At the time I invented the present invention, I was employed by NEC CORPORATION.
4. Prior to March 16, 2000, the U.S. filing date of U.S. Patent No. 6,774,912, the Information Displaying System invention as described above and claimed in the above referenced application was conceived in Japan, and further, the invention was constructively reduced to practice with diligence from the period prior to March 16, 2000 to the filing of the priority document on May 16, 2000, as evidenced by the following:

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DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131  
U.S. Application No. 09/853,634

5. Prior to March 16, 2000, having earlier conceived the idea of the Information Displaying System as set forth in the specification of the above referenced application, the present invention was formally submitted to my employer NEC CORPORATION.

6. Prior to March 16, 2000, it was standard practice of employees of NEC CORPORATION to submit their inventions to the Patent Department at NEC CORPORATION in the form of an invention report submitted with a Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment.

7. The submission of the above Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment for the present invention occurred on February 29, 2000. The Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment, along with an English translation thereof, are attached as Exhibits "A" and "B", respectively.

8. The attached Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment completely discloses the present invention as set forth and claimed in the above referenced application.

9. At the time the subject matter of the present invention was invented, it was common practice at NEC CORPORATION for a prior art search to be conducted for inventions submitted by employees.

10. On March 8, 2000, a prior art search was conducted by NEC CORPORATION for the present invention based upon the invention report submitted with the Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment. A copy of the results of the prior art search, and an English translation thereof, are attached as Exhibits "C" and "D", respectively.

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DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131  
U.S. Application No. 09/853,634

11. At the time the subject matter of the present application was invented, it was common practice at NEC CORPORATION to have patent applications prepared by persons not employed by NEC CORPORATION.

12. In the ordinary course of business and in due time, NEC CORPORATION sent a request to Shiga International Patent Office, of Tokyo, Japan, requesting preparation of a patent application based on the invention report submitted with the Notification of Employee's Invention and Assignment. The request was sent to Shiga International Patent Office on March 22, 2000. A copy of the request, and an English translation thereof, are attached as Exhibits "E" and "F", respectively.

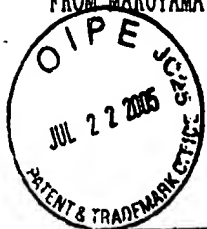
13. In the ordinary course of business, Shiga International Patent Office prepared the patent application, as requested by NEC CORPORATION, and, further, the patent application was filed in the Japanese Patent Office on May 16, 2000, which is the priority document (JP 2000-143933) of the above referenced application.

I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: 5/20/2005

Masaaki Nishino  
Masaaki Nishino

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## 業務発明届出・譲渡・意見書

(分社単独出願)

## 【発明者記入欄】

2000年02月29日

仮番号	11382823	発明の名称	情報表示システム
整理番号	017-02622		

発 明 者					
確認	会社コード 社員番号	氏名 ローマ字 (外国出願に用いるため)	電話 地区- 番号 外線ダイヤル イン	Eメールアドレス 外線FAX番号	会社名 所属部門名
済	0017 0036081	西野 政晃 Masaaki Nishino	549-3471 0537(22)8234	nishino@pc.snec.nec. co.jp 0537(22)8236	静岡日本電気株式会社 パーソナルコンピュータ 技術部

届出の形態	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 発明説明書 (実施の形態・図面等) による届出 <input type="radio"/> 明細書全文による届出 <input type="radio"/> コンカレント	
外国出願	<input checked="" type="radio"/> 希望する <input type="radio"/> 希望しない	出願希望国 アメリカ
国内優先権主張	<input type="radio"/> 自発的 <input type="radio"/> 知的財産部の要請 <input checked="" type="radio"/> 希望しない	先の発明の出願番号 先の発明の出願日 年 月 日 (西暦8桁で記入のこと) 先の発明の整理番号 知的財産部要請日 年 月 日 (西暦8桁で記入のこと)
社外発表出荷予定	<input type="radio"/> 製品発表 <input type="radio"/> 論文発表 <input type="radio"/> 新聞発表 <input type="radio"/> その他 <input checked="" type="radio"/> 社外発表なし	製品名 学会名 発表予定日 年 月 日 (西暦8桁で記入のこと)
	<input type="checkbox"/> 製品出荷	製品出荷先 出荷予定日 年 月 日 (西暦8桁で記入のこと)
関連発明 (あれば入力)	出願番号 出願日 年 月 日 (西暦8桁で記入のこと) 整理番号 外国出願してあればその国名	
発明の種類	<input type="radio"/> ビジネスの方法 (やり方や仕組み) に関する発明である <input checked="" type="radio"/> その他の発明である	
事業部連結	<input checked="" type="radio"/> する <input type="radio"/> しない	連結事業部コード: 625 連結事業部名: 第一パーソナルコンピュータ事業部

## 譲 渡

上記の発明について、静岡日本電気株式会社従業員就業規則にもとづいて、特許または実用新案登録を受ける権利を静岡日本電気株式会社に譲渡いたします。

Exhibit A

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## 発明説明書

## 【発明の名称】

情報表示システム

## 【発明の特徴】

本発明は、パーソナルコンピュータのCRT、LCD等の表示装置において、パーソナルコンピュータのRGBデータとニュースや広告等の情報データを、パーソナルコンピュータの出力するRGBデータの情報を損なうことなく合成し、その合成データを、表示装置にて表示可能な同期周波数に変換し、表示を行うことを特徴としている。

図1に、本発明による情報表示システムを示す。本システムは、パーソナルコンピュータからのデジタルRGB信号を入力する入力端子1、パーソナルコンピュータからのアナログRGB信号を入力する入力端子2、ニュースや広告等の情報データを入力する入力端子3、入力端子からのデータを合成する画像合成装置13とデータを表示する表示装置15、16から成る。

画像合成装置13にて、図4における作業領域41の外側の上下左右に情報データを追加するため、パーソナルコンピュータからRGBデータの情報を損なうことなく、ニュースや広告等の情報の表示が行えるという効果が得られる。

## 【発明の実施例】

図1を参照すると、本発明の一実施例としての情報表示システムが示されている。本情報表示システムは、パーソナルコンピュータからのデジタルRGB信号を入力する入力端子1と、パーソナルコンピュータからのアナログRGB信号を入力する入力端子2と、ニュースや広告等のデジタル情報データを入力する入力端子3の3つのデータ入力端子を有する。

この入力端子2に入力されたアナログRGB信号はA/D変換器11に入力され、デジタルRGB信号に変換される。A/D変換器11の出力はセレクト12に入力され、セレクト13は、入力端子1からの入力データとA/D変換器からの入力データの、どちらか一方を画像合成機13に出力する。

一方、画像合成機13には、入力端子3からのデジタル情報データも入力される。入力されたデジタル情報データは、図4における作業領域41の外側の上下左右に表示されるよう、画像合成機13にて、デジタルRGB信号に追加される。このようにして得られたデータは、D/A変換器14により、アナログRGB信号に変換された後、CRTモニタ等の表示装置15に出力される。

また、表示装置が表示装置16のようにLCDモニタなどのデジタルRGB信号をそのまま入力できる装置の場合は、デジタルRGB信号を、直接、表示装置16に入力する。

図1の表示装置15、16は、それぞれCRTモニタ、LCDモニタとして、当業者にとってよく知られており、また本発明とは直接関係しないので、その詳細な構成は省略する。

## 【実施例の動作の説明】

以下、本実施例の動作につき説明する。A/D変換器11とセレクト12の動作は、当業者にとってよく知られており、また本発明とは直接関係しないので、その詳細な説明は省略する。

まず、画像合成機13の動作について説明する。図1を参照すると、画像合成機13は、その内部にセレクト12から出力されたデジタルRGB信号を蓄積するフレームメモリ21と入力端子3から入力された情報データを蓄積するフレームメモリ22、フレームメモリのデータを処理するスケラ23、同期信号を発生する同期信号発生器24から成る。

スケラ23は、入力されたデジタルRGB信号、デジタル情報データをそれぞれフレームメモリ21、22に書き込む。スケラ23は、各データのサイズを判断し、表示装置で表示可能なドットクロック周波数、水平同期周波数、垂直同期周波数、フロントポーチ、バックポーチ、パルス幅を計算し、その計算結果に基づき同期信号発生器24を制御する。スケラ23は同期信号発生器24で作成された同期信号に基づき、フレームメモリ21、22のデータを読み込み、表示データを作成する。作成される表示データは図4に示すように、パーソナルコンピュータの作業領域41の外側の情報データ追加領域42、43、44、45に情報データを付加した物となる。

表示装置が表示装置15に示すようにCRTモニタの場合、作成したデータをD/A変換器14でアナログRGB信号に変換した後、表示装置15に出力する。

表示装置が表示装置16に示すようにLCDモニタの場合、LCDモニタは解像度が固定であるため、スケラ23は、作成された1024×768×lineのデータを、LCDモニタの解像度1024×768×lineに縮小/拡大変換した後、表示装置16に出力する。返還後の作業領域41の解像度は、パーソナルコンピュータから出力されるRGB信号の解像度より小さくなるが、作業領域41に表示される情報量は変わらない。

## 【効果の説明】

このように、本発明ではパーソナルコンピュータの作業領域の外側に、情報データを追加する為、作業領域の情報を損なうことなく、ニュースや広告等の表示を行うことが出来る。

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また、従来、パーソナルコンピュータで行っていた合成処理を情報表示システム側で行うこととなるため、パーソナルコンピュータの負荷を削減することが出来る。

#### 【発明の他の実施例】

本発明の他の実施例として、その基本的構成は上記の通りであるが、情報データの入力部についてさらに工夫している。その構成を図2に示す。本図において、入力される情報データはPCカードなどの蓄積メディア17に記録されている。この蓄積メディアにはパスワード情報も入っており、スケーラ23は、情報データを読み込むのと同時に、パスワード情報も読み込み、パスワード情報が不正であったり、蓄積メディアが挿入されていないときには、表示装置16への表示データの出力を行わない。

本発明を使用すれば、例えば、フリーPCなどのPCを無料で配布するとき、蓄積メディア記録された広告を確実に表示させることが出来る。

#### 【発明の背景】

本発明が関する情報表示システムは、特にパーソナルコンピュータにおいてニュースや広告等をクローズアップ表示するために構成されている。

このような、情報表示システムは、一般的にパーソナルコンピュータ上のソフトウェアにて画面データと情報データを合成しており、作業領域の上下の数ラインを使用して情報データを表示している。このため、例えば、図3に示すように、解像度が1024ドット×768ラインの画面に16ラインの情報データ32を表示すると、実際の作業領域31は1024ドット×752ラインとなるため、作業領域内に表示できる情報が少なくなるという問題がある。

本発明の主な目的は作業領域の情報量を削減することなく、情報データを表示する情報表示装置を提供することにある。

#### 【権利範囲】

##### 【届出前自主サーチにおける検索式】

1. モニタ+表示装置
2. ニュース+情報
3. MUX+合成
4. パソコン+コンピュータ

【本発明に関連すると思われる公報の公開、公告または特許番号】  
なし

【図1】本発明の第1の実施形態の構成を示すブロック図

【図2】本発明の第2の実施形態の構成を示すブロック図

【図3】従来の情報表示方法

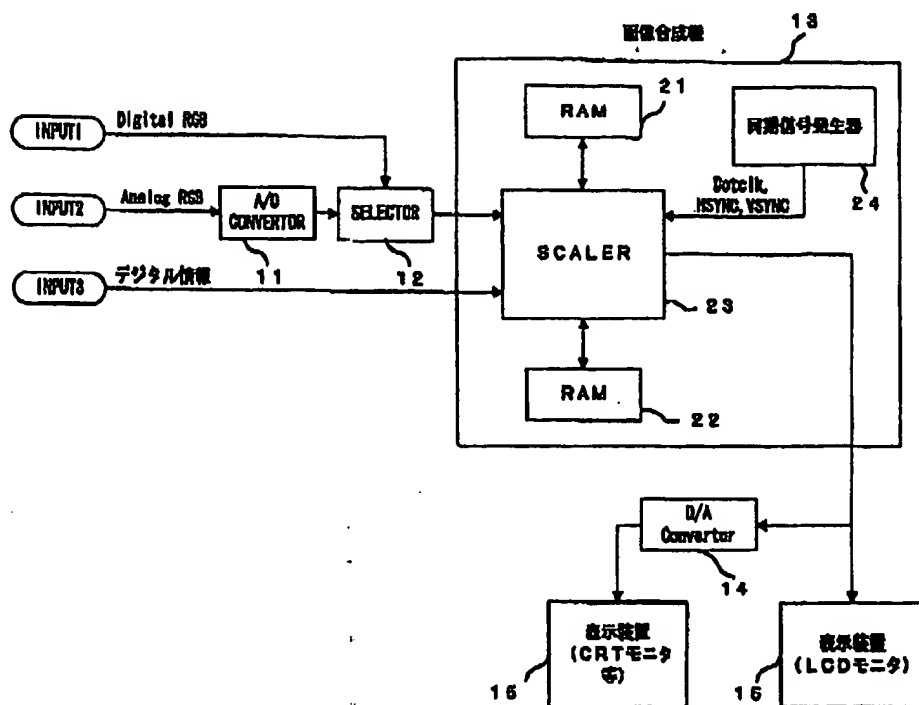
【図4】本発明の情報表示方法

#### 【符号の説明】

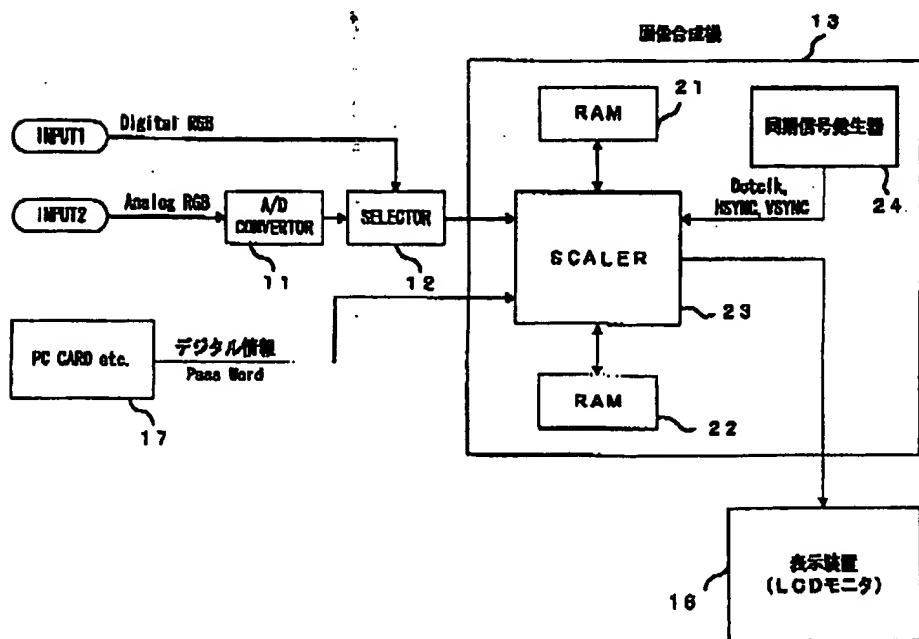
- 11 A/D変換器
- 12 セレクタ
- 13 画像合成機
- 14 D/A変換器
- 15 表示装置 (CRTモニタ)
- 16 表示装置 (LCDモニタ)
- 17 蓄積メディア
- 21, 22 フレームメモリ
- 23 スケーラ
- 24 同期信号発生器
- 31, 41 作業領域
- 32 情報データ
- 42, 43, 44, 45 情報データ追加領域

【図1】

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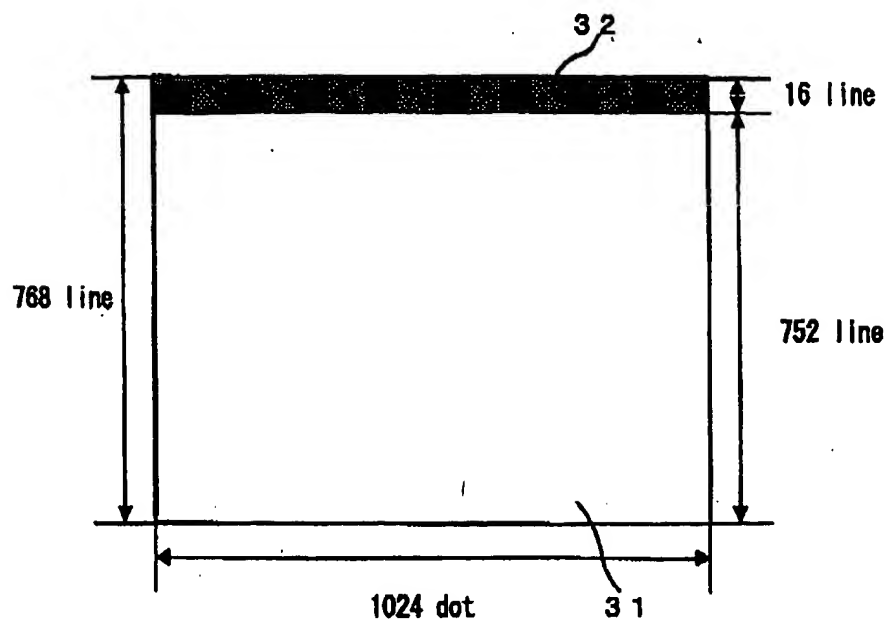


【図2】

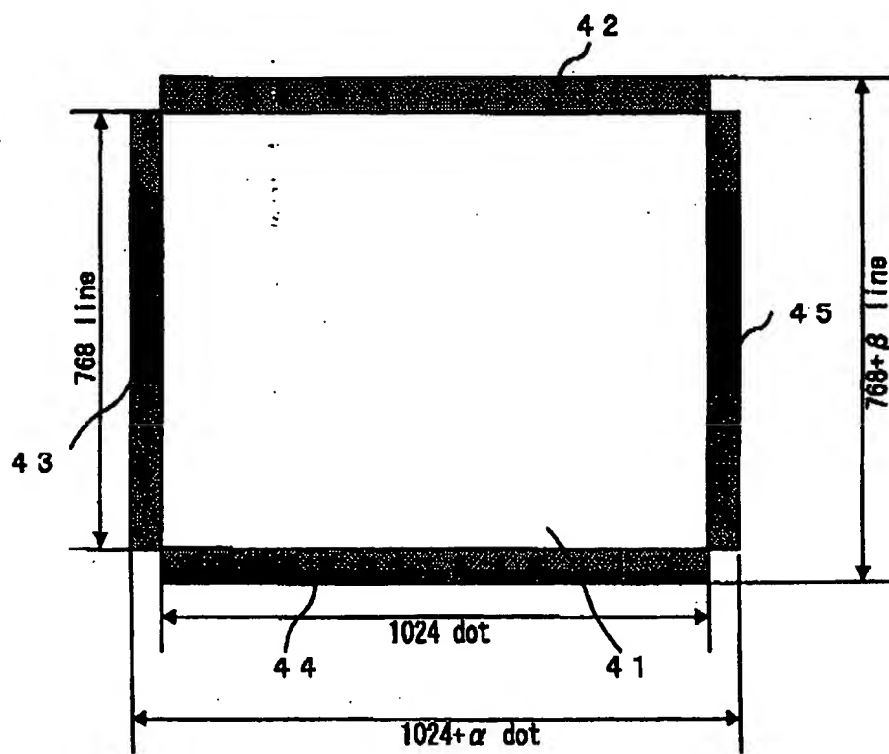


【図3】

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[図4]



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Notification of employee's invention • Assignment • Opinion  
(Application of separate company only)

[Entry space for inventor]

February 29, 2000

Provisional No.	11382823	Title of the invention <b>INFORMATION DISPLAYING SYSTEM</b>
Reference No.	017-02622	

Inventor						
	Confirmation	Company Code Employee No.	Name	Telephone	e-mail address FAX number	Company Current department
1	Done	0017 0036081	Masaaki Nishino	549-3471 0537(22)8234	nishino@pc.ssec.nec.co.jp 0537(22)8236	NEC Shizuoka, Ltd. Personal computer technique department

Form of notification	<input checked="" type="radio"/> notification by invention report (embodiments, drawings, etc.) <input type="radio"/> notification by completed specification <input type="radio"/> "concurrent"	
Foreign application	<input checked="" type="radio"/> desired <input type="radio"/> not desired	Country the United States of America
National priority	<input type="radio"/> voluntary <input type="radio"/> requested by intellectual property dept. <input checked="" type="radio"/> not desired	Application No. of the prior invention Application date of the prior invention (Fill in by 8 figures in dominical year form) Reference No. of the prior invention Date of request (Fill in by 8 figures in dominical year form)
Schedule for external publication or shipment	<input type="radio"/> publication of products <input type="radio"/> publication of papers <input type="radio"/> publication through newspaper <input type="radio"/> other <input type="radio"/> no external publication	Product name Name of academic conference Expected date for publication (Fill in by 8 figures in dominical year form)
	<input type="checkbox"/> shipment	Ship-to Expected date for shipment (Fill in by 8 figures in dominical year form)
Related invention (if any)	Application No. Application date Reference No. Country if foreign application has been filed	
Type of invention	<input type="radio"/> business model (method or structure) <input checked="" type="radio"/> other	
Division consolidated	<input checked="" type="radio"/> yes <input type="radio"/> no	Consolidated division code: 625 Consolidated division name: the first personal computer division

**Assignment**

I assign the right to obtain a patent concerning the above invention to NEC Shizuoka Ltd. based on the employee regulation of NEC Shizuoka Ltd.

**Exhibit B**

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## Invention Report

## [Title of the Invention]

## INFORMATION DISPLAYING SYSTEM

## [Features of the Invention]

This invention, relating to a displaying device such as CRT, LCD, etc. of a personal computer, mixes RGB data of a personal computer and information data such as news or advertisements without spoiling the RGB data. The mixed data is transformed to synchronous frequencies suitable for the displaying device and is displayed.

Fig. 1 shows an information displaying system of the present invention. This system comprises an input terminal 1 for receiving digital RGB signals from a personal computer, an input terminal 2 for receiving analog RGB signals from the personal computer, an input terminal 3 for receiving information data such as news or advertisements, image mixing device 13 for mixing data from input terminals and a displaying devices 15 and 16 for displaying data.

Since the image mixing device 13 adds the information data in top, bottom, right and left sides of a working region 41 as shown in Fig. 4, information such as news or advertisements can be displayed without spoiling the RGB data.

## [Embodiment]

Fig. 1 shows an information displaying system as one embodiment of the present invention. The information displaying system comprises three input terminals, namely an input terminal 1 for receiving digital RGB signals from a personal computer, an input terminal 2 for receiving analog RGB signals from the personal computer and an input terminal 3 for receiving a digital information data such as news or advertisements.

The analog RGB signals received at the input terminal 2 are inputted into an A/D converter 11 and are transformed to digital RGB signals. Outputs of the A/D converter 11 are inputted into a selector 12. The selector 12 outputs either data from the input terminal 1 or data from the A/D converter into an image mixing device 13.

The image mixing device 13 also receives the digital information data from the input terminal 3. The inputted digital information data is added to the digital RGB signals at the image mixing device 13 so that the digital information data is displayed at the top, bottom, right and left sides of a

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working region 41. The data obtained by this way is, after transformed into analog RGB signals at a D/A converter 14, outputted into a display device 15 such as a CRT monitor.

When a display device is a displaying device 16, such as an LCD monitor, which can directly receive digital RGB signals, the digital RGB signals are immediately inputted into the display device 16.

Since the display devices 15 and 16 in Fig. 1 are well known to those skilled in the art and do not relate directly to the present invention, their detailed structures are omitted.

#### [Operation of the embodiment]

Operation of the present embodiment is explained below. Since the operations of the A/D converter 11 and the selector 12 are well known to those skilled in the art and are not directly related to the present invention, their detailed explanations are omitted.

The operation of the image mixing device 13 is explained. With reference to Fig. 1, the image mixing device 13 comprises a frame memory 21 which stores RGB signals sent from the selector 12, a frame memory 22 which stores information data from the input terminal 3, scaler 23 which processes data stored in the frame memories and synchronous signal generator 24 which generates synchronous signals.

The scaler 23 writes the digital RGB signals and the digital information data into the frame memories 21 and 22 respectively. The scaler 23 determines the size of each data, calculates dot clock frequencies, horizontal synchronous frequencies, vertical synchronous frequencies, front porches, back porches and pulse widths so that they are suitable for the display device and controls the synchronous signal generator 24 based on the result of the calculation. The scaler 23 reads in the data in the frame memories 21 and 22 based on synchronous signals generated at the synchronous signal generator 24 and then creates display data. The display data is, as shown in Fig. 4, the information data plus additional information data regions 42, 43, 44 and 45 outside the working region 41.

Where a display device is the display device 15 such as a CRT monitor, the created data is outputted into the display device 15 after transformed to analog RGB signals at the D/A converter 14.

Where a display device is the display device 16 such as a LCD monitor, the scaler 23 scales up/down the generated data (1024 dot × 768 line) into the LCD monitor's resolution (1024 dot × 768 line), taking into

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account the fact that resolution of the LCD monitor is fixed, and then outputs it into the display device 16. Although the resolution at the working region 41 becomes smaller after the scaling than that of the RGB signals from the personal computer, the amount of information displayed in the working region does not change.

#### [Effect]

As described above, since the present invention adds information data outside a working region of a personal computer, news or advertisements are displayed without spoiling the information in the working region.

In addition, the present invention reduces load of personal computers because the mixing process, which is conventionally performed at a personal computer's side, is performed at an information display device's side.

#### [Other embodiments]

Another embodiment of the present invention contrives another input section for the information data while the basic structure is not altered. The structure of this embodiment is shown in Fig. 2. Information data is stored in storage media 17 such as a PC card. The storage media includes password information. The scaler 23 reads in information data and password information at the same time and when the password information is not right or storage media is not inserted, does not output the information data into the display device 16.

With this invention, for example, when one intends to distribute a PC such as a free PC at no charge, advertisements stored in storage media can be displayed without fail.

#### [Background of the Invention]

The information displaying system of this invention is constructed so as to display news or advertisements in a telop form.

Information displaying systems generally mix screen data and information data over a software in a personal computer and uses a few lines over and under a working region to display information data. Consequently, as shown in Fig. 3, when one tries to display information data 32 of 16 lines on a display of 1024 dots  $\times$  768 lines, an actual working region 31 reduces to 1024 dots  $\times$  752 lines and the amount of information to be displayed in the working region becomes smaller.

The object of the present invention is to provide an information

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displaying system which displays information data without reducing the amount of information in a working region.

[Claims]

[Search formula for voluntary search prior to notification]

1. "monitor" + "display device"
2. "news" + "information"
3. "MUX" + "mix"
4. "personal computer" + "computer"

[Publication or patent number assumed to be related to the present invention]

Non.

[Fig. 1] A block diagram showing a structure of the first embodiment of the present invention.

[Fig. 2] A block diagram showing a structure of the second embodiment of the present invention.

[Fig. 3] A conventional information display method.

[Fig. 4] An information display method of the present invention.

[Explanation of signs]

- 11 A/D converter
- 12 Selector
- 13 Image mixing device
- 14 D/A converter
- 15 Display device (CRT monitor)
- 16 Display device (LCD monitor)
- 17 Storage media
- 21 and 22 Frame memories
- 23 Scaler
- 24 Synchronous signal generator
- 31 and 41 Working regions
- 32 Information data
- 42, 43, 44 and 45 information data adding region

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## サーチ結果一覧表とサーチ結果

## サーチ結果 (公報)

整理番号	01702622	発注番号	SS0001296	
サーチ実施日	00年03月08日	サーチ担当	長沼 光明	知財部担当 稲葉 隆夫

発明の名称

情報表示システム

発明説明書の記載：

No	公知例公報番号	判定	本願サーチ対象発明	主な関連箇所
1	特許第2887257号	A	①, ②	情報表示システム

※ X、?等の意味については、「関連文書参照」の中の「サーチレポートの読み方」を参照して下さい。

コメント

①, ②-図1, 2 本公報以外の適切な先行技術はサーチできませんでした。

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Exhibit C

## Search result list and search result

## Search result (published document of patent application or patent)

Reference NO.	01702622	Order No.	SS0001296		
Date	March 8, 2000	Person in charge for search	Mr. Naganuma	Person in charge at intellectual property department	Mr. Inaba

## Title of the invention

INFORMATION DISPLAYING SYSTEM

## Document referred to in the invention report:

No.	Publicly known example Publication No.	Category	Subject for search	Related part
1	JP Patent 2887257	A	①、②	Information displaying system

※ Please see "how to read search report" in "REFER TO RELATED DOCUMENTS" for the meaning of symbols X, ? and so on.

## Comments

①、②= Figs. 1 and 2      Publications other than the above could not be found.

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Exhibit D

平成12年 3月22日

志賀国際特許事務所

志賀 正武 様

日本電気株式会社  
知的財産部長 京本 直樹

## 特許出願のご依頼

拝啓 時下ますますご清栄のこととお喜び申し上げます。

さて、自前間で締結の委任業務契約書第2条に基づき、下記のとおり出願をご手配くださるようお願い申し上げます。

敬具

記

## 1. 依頼発明

依頼番号 06490-03890

整理番号 01702622

審査請求 保留

出願種別 通常

出願人形態 分身のみ

外国出願 外国出願する

S指定 なし

出願人 会社名

識別番号

静岡日本電気株式会社

000197366

出願期限 平成12年 4月21日

当部技術担当者 井本 史生

届出区分 新：出願直前の明細書点検が必要

届出の形態 発明説明書による届出

## 2. 納品

出願後、一両日中に電子納品をお願いします。

## 3. その他

① J I S I O 出願の場合は出願番号通知書を手後直ちに出席番号入力を行ってください。



以下の書類はWWWにてご確認ください。

1. 業務発明届出・譲渡書
2. 発明説明書（または届出明細書）および図面の草案
3. 先行技術文献

以上

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知的財産部

特許技術部

井本 史生

E-Mail : IMOTO@p10-22440.star.nec.co.jp

T E L : 03(3798)6991

F A X : 03-3456-4492

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March 22, 2000

Shiga International Patent Office

Mr. Masatake SHIGA

NEC Corporation

Manager of Intellectual Property Department

Naoki KYOMOTO

## Request for Patent Application

Dear Sir,

According to Article 2 of the Contract for entrusted practice, we request you to arrange a patent application as shown below.

## 1. Invention

Request number	06490-03890
Reference number	01702622
Request for examination	On hold
Application type	Normal
Form of applicant	Separated only
Foreign application	Yes
S-assignment	No
Applicant	Company name NEC Shizuoka, Ltd. Identification number 000197866
Time limit for application	April 21, 2000
Person in charge at this department	Humio IMOTO
Notification type	New: Review of the specification prior to the filing is needed.
Notification form	Invention report

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Exhibit F

2. Delivery

Please proceed to electronic delivery in couple of days after the filing.

3. Other

- ① In the case of JIS10 application, kindly input the application number immediately after you receive the notification of application number.

Please review the following documents on the WWW.

1. Notification of invention, Assignment
2. Invention Report
3. Prior art documents

Intellectual Property Department

Patent Technical Section

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